MINUTES FROM COUNCIL MEETING CITY OF NORTH CANTON MONDAY, MAY 23, 2016

1. Call to Order

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I'd like to call to order the Council Meeting, Monday, May 23, 2016, 7:02pm.

- 2. Opening Prayer Reverend Eli Klingensmith, Zion United Church.
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance
- 4. Roll Call

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Clerk, please call the roll?

Roll call found the following council members in attendance: Cerreta, Foltz, Fonte, Griffith, Kiesling Peters and Werren. Thus having 7 in attendance.

5. Consideration

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. May I have a motion and a second to approve as presented:

Mayor's Court Receipts: April 2016

Financial Statement - February 2016 Month End Report

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Motion to approve as presented.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to approve the above reports.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you very much. At this time we will accept comments from the public. A few rules, there's a five minute time limit, once you have reached the time limit, you'll be asked to return to your seat. There will be no back and forth question and answer debate during the public speaks portion. If you do have questions, concerns you want to speak directly with us you can wait until after the meeting and we will all be here to address those questions and concern. And I ask that you state your name and address before you make your comments. So at this time, if you wish to address council please step forward.

6. Recognition of Visitors

MELANIE J ROLL: 308 Portage St. North Canton, Ohio. My topic is expanded CRA tax abatements. Summit Place, 7 new homes forgiveness of the building property tax 100%, 15 years. A loss of approximately \$105,000 School taxes for 15 years. Sanctuary Grand \$16 million assisted living forgiveness of the building property tax 50%, 12 years. A loss of approximately \$1 million School taxes for 12 years. Council says schools not receiving the tax now, so will not miss getting the tax. Fact, schools in dire need of money, they will miss the tax. This is an opportunity for much needed income to prevent further teacher layoffs and possible new school tax levy. Council says the schools will get \$6,000 per student stipend from the state from 7 houses on Summit Place. So need for taxes. Fact, not true. The per student stipend from state is \$2,655. There may be no children, or they may go to St. Paul or Central. Cost to educate each child in North Canton schools per year is \$9,403. Well short of any state stipend. Council says the schools are still getting tax on the land. Fact, tax on the land compared to tax on the buildings is miniscule, it is a joke to even say this. Council says the schools aren't losing money because of the CRA. Fact, the schools are losing 12 to 15 years of tax dollars. In excess of approximately over a million dollars during these years. What a silly statement. Of course, the schools are losing money. Council says the developer of assisted living complex will give the schools a gift in lieu of 12 years of property taxes. Fact, will there be a gift every year for 12 years, or only one gift? What gift could possibly offset schools losing approximately \$85,000 a year or approximately \$1 million over the 12 to 15 years? Fact, it appears by passing the expanded CRA, Council is serving developers and not the residents, and most important the little residents. The school children. Schools are the heartbeat of the City and the reason people come to live here. Keep our schools financially strong by assuring they receive all tax dollars residents pay. Please exclude Summit Place and the \$16 million assisted living complex from the CRA. They are both going to be completed whether or not the developer receives a CRA. These comments are from Miriam Baughman, she's attending a graduation tonight for her granddaughter and asked me to give these remarks. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you.

<u>CHUCK OSBORNE</u>: 307 Fairview Street SE, North Canton, Ohio. Couple corrections for you Melanie. (Okay) The abatement for the Grand that's a \$127,500 a year times 12, that's a \$1,530,000. And this gift that you're talking, that you mentioned, it it's a gift. Those are taxes that were already due to the school. Alright, I would like to recite the children's story of Chicken Little, that we remember from our youth as a learning aid to the current discussion on the propose expansion of the City's CRA.

Chicken Little woke up one morning and went for a walk in the town where she lived. While walking an acorn fell from a tall Oak tree and hit her on the head with a plunk. "The sky is falling, the sky is falling" she yelled "I must run and warn the king". On the way she ran into Henny Penny. "Chicken Little, what's wrong?" asked Henny Penny. "The sky is falling, the sky is falling, we must run and warn the king," cried Chicken Little. "I will run with you", said Henny Penny. So Chicken Little and Henny Penny ran together. And so on, and so on, until Chicken Little and Henny Penny, Goosey Loosey and Turkey Lurkey all ran together. Soon they ran into Foxy Loxy. "You will be safe in my den", says the clever Foxy Loxy. "You can hide in there and I will tell the king". So Chicken Little, Henny Penny, Goosey Loosey and Turkey Lurkey followed Foxy Loxy to his den. They were never to be heard or seen again. The moral in this story is that when something happens one should not believe whatever first comes to one's mind to be the cause or believe the first possible option to be true. The story of Chicken Little teaches us to think before jumping to conclusions. How can this council conclude that North Canton is so blighted that the sky is falling? Investment in North Canton is not discouraged as the statute requires for the creation of a CRA. The Main Street trailer park that has been described as blighted several times up here and worthy of the abatement up there, did not discourage investment in that area. That is evidence by the fact that O'Reilly Auto Parts and CVS Pharmacy, both built on property abutting that very trailer park. The property tax abatement given for Northridge Place, the 40 unit apartment complex built on the former site of the trailer park was unconscionable. The abatement, a 100% for 15 years amounts to \$59,129 per year will total close to \$1 million dollars over the term of the 15 years. The property may be residential in nature but it is investment property that will result in the diversion of needed funds to the North Canton City Schools, the North Canton Library and several North Canton levies also will not receive the revenue earmarked for them in the distribution of property taxes. North Canton's CRA is an affront for the taxpayers of the City as it is being administered to forgive taxes on properties owned by corporations and multi-millionaires. The individuals and entities are high net worth individuals who can easily absorb the payment of property taxes into their business activities. I have a handout to leave with you that shows the unfortunate stakeholders in the loss of the property taxes that you are abating. The North Canton City Schools are the major loser in this expansion of the CRA program, Ordinance No. 32 – 2016 will bring riches to the rich financial decline to our city schools. Mr. Griffith, you have repeatedly stated that the schools will realize a boost in revenue when the terms of these abatement run their course. Could you or anyone on this council live without a raise in salary for the next 10, 12, 15 years? That is what you are asking the North Canton City Schools to live with. Do not be a casualty like Chicken Little, Henny Penny, Goosey Lucy or Turkey Lurkey. The sky is not falling if North Canton properties are not maintained there are zoning codes on the books to deal with those issues. You cannot give away the life blood of the city as you are doing to get homeowners to maintain their properties. I have this handout for you. Also, I'd like to point out I just saw Mr. John Arnold walking in, he has spoken to you twice over the discussion of these benefits. And he has a financial gain here, as does his employer. So he should preference his remarks by stating he is a lobbyist for Mr. DeHoff. Because he is employed by them. And as you saw last week, Beth Boarder also the development team of DeHoff was also here. So they're watching you, but we're also watching as well. Thank you.

RONALD JESKEY: 1005 Woodland Ave and the Audubon, which we call it affectionately. I'm talking about Glenwood Street. Can I address you very briefly on two issues? Is that okay? Okay, the first one is the Audubon, Glenwood Street. I was up here about six years ago, Chief Grimes was chief then. I think I about filled the council with people up here about Glenwood Street. Noise, motorcycles beyond belief stopping for stop signs and revving it up. Traffic going who knows how fast. Stop signs are gone thru daily. Dogs bark, babies crying. My sunroom which is the front of the house on Glenwood the windows rattle. My wife underwent extensive cancer surgery a week ago, she's got to stay in the bedroom because she can't take the noise right now, because she's in such pain. All I'm asking council is, we talk about abatements, we talk about this, let's control our city and our traffic a little bit. Let's have some ordinance about texting, let's have some words on the cellphones. Every community in the world's got it. This, if the people are going 10 miles over the speed limit on Glenwood Street that's far enough, lets tag them. Let's stop motorcycles, let's do what we can to upgrade our community in that respect. I'll end with that. Secondly, I want to talk about this tax abatement deal. I sit across the street from that lot, and I really feel about what's going on. I'm 72 years old, I've paid taxes for 40 years. My kids they've been in school for over 30 years, I'm going to sit in my chair and I'm going to watch new homes go up and I'm going to watch a bunch of little kids playing over there. And I am going to pay their school taxes for them because they're not going to pay none. This, this is totally ridiculous. I mean this blows my mind. I'm sorry to get so emotional. But you can't beat that, you can't put the burden on old folks to pay the taxes of other people because a realtor wants to sell those houses quickly. Because he could say "listen folks, you buy this house, you won't pay any taxes". So you've got a multi, multi, multi, millionaire realtors that'll dictate to council because he's going to build these houses and he's going to sell them without any taxes. And I'm going to pay the taxes and so is everyone else in North Canton is going to. I do not understand why they get a tax break, I don't. I've got to let the bricks fall out of my house and it would be a total disaster then I could come to city council say "well, I want a tax abatement on my shabby, old beat up house". But I don't know what your thinking is. Because you can't put the burden on us people who are retired, who are on a fixed income, getting a retirement. And like I said I'm going to wind up here, I'm not going to sit in my chair outside and watch a bunch of kids run around and I'm paying for their schools. That's bologna. That cannot happen. Thank you very much for listening to me.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Just to clarify. Ron, you would indeed get an abatement for your garage under the current program. (I'm sorry?) Just to clarify you actually would get an abatement for your broken down garage under the current program.

RONALD JESKEY: My broken down garage?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: You would, yes, that's I mean that's part of what, if you build a...

(Mr. Chuck Osborne spoke out from the gallery)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Mr. Osborne, you know as well as anyone not to speak up from the audience. I will have you removed.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: That's my fault, I am out of order.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Councilman Griffith made a statement, simple as that. Thank you, sir. You can take your seat? You know better than that, Chuck.

GLEN SAYLOR: 340 Reed Ave NW. Before I start, Mr. Peters, you should have ruled Mr. Griffith out of order, he even agrees to that. But tonight with Memorial Day being on Monday, I was going to speak about the CRA, but I wanted to put these words into minutes of the council. One of the most bitter battles of the Korean War was fought in December 1915 near the Chosin Reservoir. As hundreds of thousands of Chinese soldiers attacked US forces, overwhelming them, US servicemen went without food or sleep in the harsh wind whipped Korean winter. Most soldiers lacked the proper clothing for subzero weather and almost everyone suffered frostbite. It was the beginning of the longest retreat in US military history. Only one road led out of this mountainous region and it came to be known as the Gauntlet. The Chinese watched as the retreating forces clogged their escape route with vehicles in a desperate attempt to get out alive. From their perches high in the hills the Chinese continued their attacks on their helpless victims. The road became jammed with incapacitated vehicles. The US soldiers were in an impossible situation. They had to leave the wounded who could not walk on their own behind. It was here that we start the saga of Private Ed Reeves. Nineteen years old, Ed was one of the 400 wounded that had to be left behind. His open aired truck was the last in the long convoy attempting to escape the certain death of the Gauntlet. The wounded were zipped in their sleeping bags, their only protection from the severe cold. For four days they awaited their rescue but none came, only the Chinese. And one by one, the Chinese stormed the trucks and robbed the GI's and began a killing spree. And they set each of the trucks ablaze using what was left in the gas tanks to ignite the trucks with the wounded still inside. When they came to Ed Reeves' truck they found it didn't have any gas. So they decided to shot him in the head. Mr. Reeves said "I talked to the Lord and asked for peace so I could die like a man". "I sat there waiting to die, I found out you can still sweat when its 35 degrees below zero". Incredibly the bullet meant for Ed's head only grazed it and he was still alive. He was left alone again and over the course of the next several days, he tried to free himself and escape. But every time he fainted. And then the Chinese returned and found out that he was still alive and they dragged him from the truck and proceeded to beat him and they left him for dead. But again, Ed wouldn't give up. He began to crawl across the snowy, frozen Chosin Reservoir in the direction of his retreating comrades. Nearly clothes less and without any protection finally he was discovered by the Ice Marines, a volunteer force who had struck out into enemy territory to save as many of the men who had been left behind as possible. Out of the 400 of his comrades stranded on the Gauntlet, only Ed made it out alive. The doctors felt Ed was as good as dead, but against all odds he battled his way back to health. Both of his feet and all of his fingers were amputated. But Ed came home and married his sweetheart, raised 7 children who gave have him 13 grandchildren. Ed said "I've been blessed, I came back, I guess the Lord didn't want me to die on that road". I would like the last couple seconds of my allotted time for quiet. Thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Is there anyone else wishing to address council, please step forward state your name and address.

LARRY TRIPP: 1127 East Maple. I have somewhat been following media publicity regarding the proposed CRA program. To be quite honest I'm not that well versed on the ins and outs of this legislation, other than it appears to me it does nothing to generate interest for the average homeowner. I'm not sure how long the present program has been in effect, however, with only three homeowners utilizing the program I would venture to say it has not generated too much interest. So one question I would ask, what now causes you to believe it will create interest in other sectors of the city? The article in Sunday's Repository did mention abatements given to three homeowners, but no mention made of the larger amount of abatement given to businesses and/or developer builder. I wonder why. I also had trouble understanding a statement made by Councilwoman Kiesling and I quote "the schools aren't losing money". "They aren't getting the increased value of property for a set number of years". "Adding that once the exemption expires the schools can collect on that increased amount". I don't quite understand your thinking on that. I don't know what you were saying. So today driving through North Canton I was looking for blighted areas, didn't really see any. Maybe a house here and there, but what I did notice were homes that need a paint, new roof, windows, all of which are not part of the community reinvestment program, as I understand. Some homes just needed minor tune ups with yard work, etc. This made me think if city council really wants to assist the average homeowner and spruce up North Canton, let's be a little more innovative. Offer income tax credits for let's say, 3 to 5 years for somebody to paint their house, put on a new roof, put in some new windows. Give them a tax credit. I've not put a pencil to this but I would certainly think it wouldn't too costly to the city. Let's just say, a \$50.00 tax credit per household for 50 houses in North Canton. And if my math is correct that would totally \$2,500 in tax credits. The same for a new roof or windows, would be another \$2,500 if 50 people did it, if 50 homes did it for roughly what \$5,000 a year in tax credits. A far cry from what schools could stand to lose under the present proposal. I would like to think this city could give income tax credits as I've suggested without too much of a problem. Just something to think about, something to think about. So I believe there are other solutions to clean up North Canton with no loss to city schools or other facilities benefiting from the property tax. Well, I'm glad you're looking for ways to spruce up North Canton. Please not at the expense of the schools or other facilities. Thanks.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Anyone else wishing to address council, please step forward.

ROD COVEY: 35 Auburn Ave SE, North Canton. As I've said before I love to, this is my 200th appearance at this meeting and planners, and several individuals with the police chief, and many other departments of the city. And during all that time, it's been a pleasure for me, my background happens to be journalism. I'm a degree journalist and have been active in the two professional journalism fraternities all my life. So my life is devoted to that; and we don't have an oath of hypocraties but there is an unknown oath that we never do anything that say or write anything that isn't true. If there's any doubt about it, get an affirmation, and if there's still some doubt about it you get another affirmation. And if you're still not sure you get a third affirmation, then you know what you're writing is true. So I've had the pleasure of working with some real professionals in this field who serve you. And I'd like to comment on them because they certainly deserve it. Communication is everything, everything. The image of this city is based on good communication between council and the administration and the people here and the people who are reporting this to the 17,000 citizens who will be reading what they write. The number of persons who attend out of the 17,000 on the average for each meeting, let's say there's 40 meetings, 30 meetings a year. There's only 2 or 3 people, tonight there's many more because of special issues. But to inform the other 17,000, I'd like to give credit to especially three people. And one we all know well is Martin Olson, who is, he's been a professional legal person, an attorney all his career. But suddenly he turned into a star reporter. And he is a star reporter, because I've had pleasure to work with him, and I see everything he does every week when he posts he does a great job. So Martin on the behalf of the citizens we thank you very much. The young lady to his right is fairly new and when we heard that Robert Wang, most of us remember Robert Wang, who represented the Repository for 2 years did a great job. I personally had the pleasure of attempting to see if we could, we the Repository and the city could arrange for him to get a Pulitzer Prize. He was true to his profession. But things happened at the Repository, there's changes and I was worried when he was reassigned. But thank goodness he was reassigned, his position was filled by a young lady Jessica Holbrook, who is right here. And she is I really read every word she says, and she personally as I mentioned at a previous meeting saved the cucumber tree. The largest cucumber tree in the world is right here in North Canton, and I live within 50 yards of it. And I've been protecting it and taking care it, and publicizing it. There's probably 15 or 20 million people who know about that tree, and who know about North Canton because of the internet now. And we've had, we're approaching 2,000 visitors. So that tree would have been cut down and visitors were not allowed to come to see it anymore, if it were not for Jessica. The Beacon Journal I'm repeating this for some of you, but some of the people here didn't know this. I'm repeating it because the Beacon Journal wrote a piece but they were just a little bit hasty in deadline, the man who is running Auburn Knolls, who's not a very nice gentleman, frankly. And that's for the record. Because he said "we don't want people coming in here anymore, they walk around, they wander and they rob our homes". People don't come in to see that tree and then go rob our homes. We've had three robberies at Auburn Knolls in 30 years. They were all inside jobs. One lady left her garage door open and left and two other persons or two women by fact came into her house and stole \$16,000 worth of jewelry. So and the other two were also so called inside jobs. And even though it's a gated community, the average person probably gives their number out for entrance to the gate at least a 100 people. So there's thousands of people who another words it was terrible what he did. But thank goodness he's out of business now. But the piece that Jessica wrote after visiting the tree and spending an hour with me in my kitchen, and finding out what really happens and the history of the tree. Her piece is what saved that situation. And since then we've had another 50 persons come here.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Mr. Covey, your time is up. Thank you so much I appreciate it.

ROD COVEY: Okay, yeah, thank you very much.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Anyone else wishing to address council please step forward, state your name and address. Last chance, seeing none we will move onto old business. May I have a motion and a second to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 37 - 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 37 – 2016.

7. Old Business

8. Ordinance No. 37 – 2016

Personnel and Safety Committee

An ordinance amending Section 20 COMPENSATION, of Chapter 155 Personnel Regulations of Part One – Administrative Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of North Canton to update the compensation level of exempt employees in line with non-exempt employees and thereby permit the City to promptly recruit, attract, and maintain highly trained and experienced leaders and managers, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Yes, we spoke about this last week, and the partner ordinance right after this will address the same issue. This really came to light when we saw the Green opening in the paper and they, it was a lot higher than what our range is. So what this does, it basically expands the range, the salary ranges for all of the exempt employees. And it will allow us to attract and maintain highly trained, and highly skilled personnel. If there's no other comments I'll entertain a motion and a second to adopt.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt the second reading of Ordinance No. 37 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 37 - 2016 WAS GIVEN SECOND READING.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Thank you. May I have a motion and a second to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 38 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to read by title only the second reading of Ordinance No. 38 – 2016.

9. Ordinance No. 38 - 2016

Personnel and Safety Committee

An ordinance amending Section 10 VACATION REGULATIONS, of Chapter 155 Personnel Regulations of Part One — Administrative Code of the Codified Ordinances of the City of North Canton to update the vacation levels of exempt employees in line with their contemporaries and thereby permit the City to promptly recruit, attract, and maintain highly trained and experienced leaders and managers, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Yes, this is the companion piece, and we came across is when you're hiring skilled and highly experienced individuals they're coming from jobs that have 3, 4, 5 weeks' vacation. And per the ordinance that we had we couldn't offer them more than one. This allows us flexibility ourselves, and the administration in attracting and maintaining talent. Dan, you have a comment?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: The only thing I was going to say or clarify, we're not setting new salaries, and we're providing a range that we can negotiate. So, that's important to know.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Any other comments, if not I'll entertain a motion and a second to adopt.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt the second reading of Ordinance No. 38 – 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 38 – 2016 WAS GIVEN SECOND READING.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Thank you. Onto new business, may I have a motion and a second to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 32 – 2016?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 5 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 32 – 2016. Foltz voted no, Fonte voted to abstain.

10. New Business

11. Ordinance No. 32 - 2016

Community and Economic Development Committee

An ordinance implementing Sections 3735.65 through 3735.70 of the Ohio Revised Code, establishing and describing the boundaries of a Community Reinvestment Area in the City of North Canton, designating a Housing Officer to administer the program, creating a Community Reinvestment Housing Council and a Tax Incentive Review Council.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Chairwoman Kiesling.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING</u>: Yes, I just a few comments before we start getting into the nitty, gritty again. First of all, Mr. Covey, I think I'm very excited to see that there's more than our normal 2 to 3 people here on Monday, as you had spoken

about. That obviously means we've, you know, people are reading the paper and they're interesting in what we're doing around here. So I truly appreciate that. The only way we're going to make things work here is if you guys give us your opinion. And quite honestly, we started talking about this legislation in March, and I have not received one single call for or against. So, I do appreciate people coming up and speaking on the record, because they're not calling us on the phone or emailing our clerk. So, thank you for all of those of you who do come up and speak to us. Secondly, secondly Mr. Tripp, I appreciate you coming back. You told us you wouldn't be back and I'm glad to see your face here, we appreciate your comments as well. As far as, understanding the newspaper, you obviously had to be here for most of our conversations, but we're trying to encourage or entice people to remodel their homes. And yes, unfortunately the auditors have made it very clear to us that general maintenance does not count. That's unfortunate. None of us agree with that. But we have nothing, there's nothing we can do about that. As far as tax incentives in the future, we are working on that. Eric and I've been talking about grant programs. Trying to get people to be able to afford to do that general maintenance to their homes. But what we're hoping for is people who maybe will take advantage of the CRA program, their neighbors are going to see that "hey, they're doing some stuff around the homes", and maybe they'll want to do some stuff to their home. So that's sort of the purpose of the CRA. The other purpose is, or try to understand how the taxes are abated is it is only is abated on your property value goes up. Right? They only abate the difference in that property value. And unfortunately it's really not going to be a whole money on general residential. If you redo a kitchen and two bathrooms, let's say, and you put \$20,000 into it, the value of your home may go up. And maybe it'll go up \$5,000, \$6,000, \$7,000 and then we get the abatement. So a lot of this is incremental, but its more, we're trying to incentivize people to make their property look nice in the City of North Canton. As much as we can. And that leads me to the fact that Canton is currently, obviously has an extreme problem with their housing stock, and they have contacted us and said "My God, we are so behind on the eight ball, you guys are so right, we should have done this 15 years ago". I work at Aultman Hospital, they're working with Aultman trying to make around Autlman Hospital look better and incentivize those homeowners. So this project is huge, not only for the City of North Canton, but the county. Because nobody else has one like it. So we're trying to revolutionize it. Yeah, it's a work in progress. We're going to look at the map every two years, we've made that very clear to everybody. It's in the legislation. Things may change, things may get added back in. We're trying to make it as fair as we possibly can. We're trying to mirror other pieces of legislation in the state. We do currently have two CRAs in our city that have been in place probably 15, 20, I know I was around when we did one of them. But I don't think the other one, I think it pre-dates me. So, yes, unfortunately, yeah, a lot of people have not taken advantage of the CRAs. The few people that have, kudos to them, and its more about did they reach out and ask the question. You know we can only advertise so much and you now give out so much information. So if they go seeking "hey, what can I do, is there any help out there?" You know, that's where we're at. And Mr. Osborne made it very clear that Mr. Arnold needs to speak that he represents DeHoff, but Mr. Osborne also has to represent himself when he's speaking against the CRA that he currently has a CRA and gets an abatement on his home. So let's be fair. Other issues. The CRA, it's an equal opportunity ordinance, I cannot say "yeah, you homeowners we want you to improve your homes, but you developers we don't want you to improve anything". We want everybody to improve everything, regardless of whether its vacant land or IRG over at the Hoover Company. We want everybody to improve their properties, not just homeowners. So CRAs, equal opportunity, I think that's what we're here for. I think I hit on everything I wanted to look at. So, let's get to the nitty-gritty. We, last week, were Mr. DeHoff called me. I had gone on the record and said "hey, I'm going to ask the developers of the Sanctuary Grand", and currently the Sanctuary Grand is in the map. And the other point I want to make, this all has to be approved by the state. So we put, we've been working on this for almost 2 years, FYI, it's been on the record since March. We put a lot of time and energy into this, we do have a housing stock survey that proves that the City of North Canton homes are not what we'd like them to be. We had to have that housing stock survey, so we can send it to the state so we can potentially qualify for the citywide Community Reinvestment Area. We did all that work over the last two years, we've been speaking about it since March. We decided this is something we want to do. Last week I spoke about a potential, I would love for the developers of the Sanctuary Grand to give the schools a gift. Obviously, the schools are not going to get the full amount of the taxes for 12 years, if this legislation goes through. Especially on the Sanctuary Grand, I realize that's what's going on right now everybody says. Its' going to happen with anything else as well. But that's the big guy right now. So, Mr. DeHoff called me last week and said he currently offered \$10,000, he'd give the schools \$10,000 every year that we abate the taxes. It's in writing, we all have a copy of it. He doesn't have to give the schools anything, he's not required right now as far as we know with the scope of the project. He's not required to give a gift. He's offered \$120,000 to the schools over the 12 years. So those of us, I was pretty excited about that, he stepped up to the plate and offered some money. So we're excited about that. I realize that, that project is huge and they will get a significant abatement, however, it is a \$16 million dollar project that we want in the City of North Canton. I realize its already being built, however, they could have gone other places. So we are very excited, I think the schools are very excited. That's a \$16 million dollar project regardless of how much is abated or not. At this point, after 12 years that's a lot of money. So we're very excited about that project. I just want to get that on the record. So, I think we've got everything ironed out, as far as the map, as far as the abatement type and years, we're at remodels, the lowest, and you have to at least put \$2,500 into your home with 10 years, 100% abatement. If you're remodeling greater than two units, which would be obviously apartment buildings or anything greater than two units. You have to at least put \$50,000 into the projects and right now we have it at 50% for 12 years, and the cost of a brand new home would be 100% for 15 years. There's not a whole lot of vacant lots in the city, we know that the Summit Street ones are, but we started thinking about the CRA before we even knew those lots were going to be separated. So that's you know, that's not fair. They didn't separate those lots because we were having a CRA, we were trying to get this housing stock going, and they decided to buy the property. We're really excited, those 7 new homes are going to be beautiful over there on Glenwood. So right now, we're at the point where I think we ironed everything out. I'm done speaking, I'll leave it up to everybody else.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Do you want to speak to the covenant that he has on those 7...

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Oh, and the covenant on Summit Place, we do have that on the record as well, or in an email.

That those Summit Place homes do have covenants in their deeds. There's only certain builders that can build there. The minimum value of the home has to be \$300,000, and the architecture has to be just like the Sanctuary architecture. That's in the deeds of those homes as well. So it's going to be very similar and beautiful, quite honestly.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Did we get the Waterside letter?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: We have the Waterside, I don't know if we've got it confirmed yet. The new mock up.

<u>LAW DIRECTOR FOX</u>: I've received information that the issues that concerned me that they're going to address those. They're going to have their legal counsel draft an agreement forward that to me for our review. It's certainly something that we wish to have recorded. The recorder's office, because if there's an agreement not to put multifamily properties on that; one of the things that you look at is well this is for a period of 10 years, what if the property would be sold? So what you want is to have a document that can be recorded, so it would be a deed restriction that would travel with the property. But if someone else would buy it they would still be placed under that restriction. But as of today I have not received anything.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: And let me explain that as well, since we have new people in the audience. Waterside is a new, well not new, but development down like right across the street from Bonnett Street on South Main Street. It's been sitting vacant for 6 years, we put a road in. It was supposed to be high tech jobs, it was in cooperation with the City of North Canton, the State of Ohio. They did get a great to build that road. However, it is zoned where they could put apartments on that piece of property. And you know, we're not excited about that, because we're thinking we're getting high tech type jobs on that property. But the agreement ends in 10 years, which is in what 3 or 4 years, I believe the agreement ends. So in 3 or 4 years they could put apartments on that property. Mr. DeHoff and Mr. Lemmon have agreed to put a covenant in the deed and write up a letter that for the next 10 years if they can remain in the CRA, which they are currently in the Main Street CRA, if they can remain in the CRA they will not put apartments on that property. So that's what that Waterside agreement is. Alright, I'm open.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: I was just going to say, Larry, I agree that one of the concerns that I've had about the whole process is the fact that not a lot of folks have utilized the existing CRA. And one of the reasons, I would say the main reason is because it doesn't usually financial make sense based on the old restrictions. We had a huge, huge restriction on how much you needed to improve your house. And most people couldn't come up with enough improvements to make it work. So one of the things we did here was to say "hey, we're going to drop that restriction as low as we are able to base on the statutes". So now we are bringing in literally as many people as possible to our home rehabs based upon the numbers that are there. So we are extending the home improvement projects to as many people as we can within the city. And that was a debate and discussion we had, but we want to encourage improvement in as many ways as we can. And I also agree completely agree with you, that this is the best solution in many ways when it comes to development. The answer isn't one big thing or even two big things. Its' 26 little things and this is one little thing that maybe will change 10 houses or 5 houses, or even if it's one. That's one house that isn't going to be a problem long term. And we can't assume that things are going to continue to be good here, we've got to make sure we do as much as we can to extend incentive to homeowners to make sure that our communities are improved. And I just want to clarify that too. So I do think that there's more incentive for people to utilize the CRA now, because we dramatically dropped the number from tens of thousands to \$2,500. That should make a big difference.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING</u>: Thank you for pointing that out.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Well, and also, we increased the area.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Right.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: So we've broaden the area, and we talked about a family came in last week who lived on Portage, and wants to redo their home. And previously they weren't in the CRA. And you know to Mr. Covey's point too, you know, a lot of people probably didn't even know about the CRA. And they just kind of blew it off. So, it's one of our jobs now to communicate that to the public and say "this is a really good thing that's happening for North Canton". The Repository has done a nice job kind of alerting people to it. But I mean this is a program that could save people money and we are offering, I mean you're right, it's a small incentive. But one small incentive from one house to another house to another house, it builds the whole neighborhood. And it makes it nicer. So...

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Marcia, and that, a study that was done, was there a median age for North Canton?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Eric, would know off the top his head. Eric, what was the... (73 years).

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Seventy-three, and one of the things that you know, when I look at this that comes to mind is, you know, and I don't know who sent it. When they drove around and said they didn't see much blight. I see a little bit of it in my ward. Not full on blight yet, but I can see where it would turn in 10 years. This CRA, I think takes a longer view, I mean I think what people have talked about tonight is you're abating these taxes right now. I get that. I mean I'm not, you know I'm a little uncomfortable about it. But I take the long view on this, you know, I want this city to be strong long after I'm out of here and my kids are living in this community. And my kids go to the school. And I am very cognoscente of the fact that some of these monies are going to be abated for the short term. You know, it's going to affect me, as a taxpayer. But at the end of the day, you know I'm taking the long view when I vote yes on this legislation. I look in my neighborhood and you know, we took a

lot of flak for putting so much money in Dogwood pool. The short view was, well, it's a recreational facility used by a very small portion of the city. The view that I took on it was that is an economic driver, there's homes back behind there that were built right after WWII. Most of them don't even have basements. You know, when we moved into our house, they were selling for about \$100,000. Couple of them have sold for \$30,000 in the last couple of years. That scares me. That's an indicator that neighborhood is headed in the wrong direction. One of the things that keep the value of that property up is the proximity to the school, proximity to a public pool. One of how many in the state, 3? You know, so you can justify spending \$70,000, \$80,000 on a three bedroom, one bathroom home. The CRA now, gives those folks an opportunity to add on, maybe, some of them don't even have garages. Put a garage up on that property and abate those taxes. That's what I'm looking at. Okay, I'm looking to bringing young families into this community. I see a lot of older folks out here, I'm one of them. We're not going to be around 20, 30 years. But our kids and the new young families moving in are going to. That's the view that I'm looking at. Okay, I'm not going to trip over quarters to get to dimes. Okay, you know, I'm going to pick that quarter up. So you know that's my view on it. Now as far as the abatements for some of the larger projects, yeah, the folks that are doing these are very wealthy, they're very well off, and they worked hard to get to that point. But they are investing \$16 million, at least that's projected. It could be more, it could be a lot more. And it's going to bring jobs into the city. And I would even venture a guess that a portion of you sitting out here might be living there in about 10, 15 years. Enjoying them in the middle of North Canton. It's a long term investment. And that's the bottom line. And that's the view I look at and that's why my vote is yes. Now, with that being said, you know, we're only abating a certain percentage for a certain amount of years. So all these new developments is new money to the school. I mean let's not forget that. I mean, the schools are collecting anything on that piece of property right now. When this building is built and appraised, and I think it's going to be up more than \$16 million. You know, that could be a significant, it will be a significant amount of money to the schools. And then after 12 years they're going to realize the full amount of that. That's the long view, that's looking down the road. That's planning for the long term future. So that's my two cents. Anyone else want to chime in?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: I'll give the sunny view, and everybody can vote. I think we've had great discussion here. I agree with mostly what everybody is saying here tonight. I think the audience has made great points. The schools are our number one asset here in North Canton. Hands down. What are they, top 1% in Ohio? Top 4% nationally. I just want to see any revenue stream affected long term that's going to put levies on the ballot that was mentioned here by some our public here during public speaks. They're going to be relied upon to increase levies. I think we're missing it here on that. I'm all for the residential and the neighborhoods, and fixing the older homes. But you know, where are we going to be 10 years from now, 12 years from now, 15 years from now. Are any of us going to be here? Maybe not. Ten years from now, maybe a few if that, 15. I just think I'm looking for some compromise here. Maybe leave the residential alone in 10 years or maybe only give 5 years for b and c. Five years is still a lot of incentive that you're giving to developers that are already building this facility. Whether we pass this or not. That's going to happen. But I think in 5 years we curtail how much the schools are going to lose long term. And we might still be here in 5 years, most of us, to realize was that a good decision or not. That's what I think I'm asking council to do now to compromise. Look at this short term versus long term. We all should have learned from history, we look at CETA agreements, JEDD agreements, they get it for 99 years. These 15 years is a long time. Well, 12, 15 it depending on what you're looking at. Those are long, that's a long time. Our incentive has always been the great schools, the great services, the great parks, the great housing. Everything that North Canton represents. Really there shouldn't really need to be a lot more incentive. I agree to go forward with this if it's the right terms. But I just can't see giving away hundreds of thousands of dollars when you don't have to. Five years should be good enough. It should be good enough. The incentives are already there to build because of where we are in North Canton. Nothing has been in writing that would say that those developers could count on this happening. So I'm just asking this council to compromise. Let's learn from the past. How much is too much? Let's reel it in a little bit. Then you'll have my vote. You don't need my vote now the way discussions have happened. But I think that's something that I can live with, and we can move forward with this together.

(Mr. Glen Saylor spoke out from gallery and then left)

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: A couple comments.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING</u>: I would like to make a comment. Just to reiterate what I've said, remember, so I know you're looking at this project very specifically, but this CRAs...

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Before you continue.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Okay.

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: I move that you do just put it on the record you find him out of order, otherwise you're going to have this continuance someone's going to jump up shout what they wish to say, run out of the building because they don't wish to be remove.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: I will find him out of order, but truth be told that's not going to stop these guys. I mean Chuck's already proven that, Larry, I mean.

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: That's all I'm saying, you should put it on the record. I apologize for interrupting you, but do it at the time it occurred.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Let the record reflect that Glen Saylor is out of order, and he has removed himself very quickly

from the meeting. Member Kiesling.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: I just want to make the comment that this is you know, a citywide CRA. This, this 12 years, 50% is not just for the Sanctuary Grand.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, I'm saying everywhere 5 years.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So, so what I want to point out is, we're requiring them to put \$50,000 in improvements. So if you only give the abatement for 5 years, its nickels. So we're really not incentivizing them, is what I'm trying to say. Because the value of their property may go up \$10,000, \$20,000, maybe.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: If you build a new home, if you build a new home you don't pay property tax for 5 years that might \$10,000 in savings you're realizing. That's a lot of money.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So wait, so now you're excusing him.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: No, you know, 10 years for the remodel, what's new housing? (15) Fifteen, it should be 5. I'm saying give them 5. You build a new home on a lot, now I wasn't in favor of Summit, I wasn't in favor of the Sanctuary Grand. That's okay, if it's going to be included, okay, include them all. But just make it 5 years. Make the \$250,000 house just 5 years, or whatever the appraised house is going to, let's hope it's at least that on Summit. I'll be very disappointed if it's not near that. Let's be realistic.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Their deed says \$300,000.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Okay, well fine we'll use \$300,000. That's great. What's the property tax on \$300,000, I don't know, maybe its \$2,000 a year. That's probably low, that's probably low, maybe its \$3,000 a year. I'm saying for \$15,000 you're giving the incentive, people are going to buy homes, change ownership. Fifteen years is a long time.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Okay, well this is the first time you've brought up the 15 years. I mean...

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, we've talked, we've talked in general terms, nothing specifically. I've just been thinking about this, this weekend.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING</u>: Well, we've spoken specifically for months now. This is the first time you've said you've gone after the 15 years. So...

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, this is the first time Mark brought it up, Mr. Cerreta brought it up a little while ago. We've never really actually pursued that. I'm pursuing it now. I'm pursuing it now, its first reading. You know, we've had good discussion, I appreciate how you've tied it all together. Like I said, I see council's point of view, I see the residents' point of view. I say "what's good for the community"? It's good for the community is not over incentivize this, in my opinion. Five years should be enough. The, still the need is the 10 years for the remodeling. I'm not going to back up. We've all kind of said that tonight. I've been on the soapbox pounding about it. You know, fix your home up. That's fine, leave that there. Just make the new structures or even some of the remodels of the apartments 5 years. We live in a great place, we don't need to give them 12 or 15 years. Five years should be enough. Let's just think about that.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Couple comments. I'm listening, and I think everyone, this whole idea, this was an attempt to help our housing. When we get back to it, our survey, our last survey said that one of the number one things people saw our housing going down. Okay, so this isn't just a piece of us trying to do that. There are ideas, like Mr. Tripp said, which I appreciate, you know with painting your house, putting a new roof and everything. That's part of what makes us a good looking community. Developers are very important. Government cannot do stuff the developers do. We need developers. Let's don't think that we can just control this. It is very important, Boss Hoover was a developer. He created, he developed a lot of this stuff here. So let's make sure that we're not bashing developers, if people were making money and making our community great; fantastic and good for them. And a lot of our schools the way they are is because of the things that we've developed in this community and a lot of developers. So we're trying to set some tone for the future here. The thing that I left week, last week we talked about the big elephant in the room which was the grant. I'm okay with the developer's old properties, lots that are open, old neighborhoods. Fine, knock themselves out. Put a good brand new home in there, increase the value of everybody around it. That's great. But the developer the big community grand thing was the big elephant in the room last week. And I know we set it at 50%, which is great. I think we did a fantastic job of that rather than a 100%. I think we left this though, we could look at the years. I mean, Doug said 5 years for something different, I think we're little bit off, but its 12 years right now I believe for multi-homes. We're trying, I discourage multi-homes, and I don't want apartments in this community. I think because they look nice and everything, but what do they look like in 15, 20 years? So we should make it tougher in multi-homes. So you know, instead of 12 years I left this meeting last week thinking 8 years a multi-home and that includes the Sanctuary Grand. They get their 50%, they get 8 years, there's a little compromise there. But 12 years is a lot of money for major projects like that. We're still giving something, we still want developers in. We're still giving 50% for multi, but I think around 8, 5 might not be a big a deal. I'm thinking more in the 8 years, not necessarily the 12 years for a big, and the multi-unit type things. For the housing thing, I want people to build. Now, for those areas that we've kind of taken out, the Sanctuary, the Monticello. Those are going to happen, this is North Canton. They're building new homes, those are going

to happen in those areas. If not you know, they're going to happen next year, it's part of our community people want to live here. So that's kind of where I'm set with the multi home issue with the multi family, and I think we need to look at that differently. I don't know where you're at when you were saying the 5...

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, that's what I was talking about.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Okay, cause it look like, sounded like you were going towards the regular houses.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: I'm talking about both, you know, "a" stays the same, look at "b" and "c" just being 5 years.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: I just don't think it's really not an incentive, we're requiring them to put \$50,000 in just to apply for it. I mean, so let's say they get \$3,000 back a year for 5 years, that's only \$15,000. So you've got to look at it that way...

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: You've got to give some incentives, you've got to give some incentives.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: We're going to have areas around us. I mean, Green's going to do it, Louisville's going to do it.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: This can be changed every 2 years.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: That's the best thing we talked about, is every 2 years. But I'm just saying, we locked into these agreements, if they're 12 now that's it we don't change.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: You're right.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: You know now's the time to say it's going to be 5 or 8, or whatever it's going to be. You know that's my point, we're talking the same thing. I can't be more clear than this, anything other than the single family residential rehab should be 5 years. Why's it so long, haven't we learned our lessons?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Well lets...

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: Note that the, you're 2 years is actually your minimum. You can look at it as often as you wish, you just want to make sure that anything that you might be altering how that might affect someone and make sure that they're included. Another key aspect of it is, understand that they're very different processes for your applications for residential versus commercial, industrial. The residential is much more straightforward, it will go to the housing officer through application. If that's approved then it goes to the county auditor and they'll see if your improvements actually did improve the value of your home. For industrial, commercial those applications, the owner must enter into an agreement with council, make the determination of what the percentages and what the amounts are. On every application council must enter into an agreement and if the value of the tax abatement and so forth, and the new employees that come in there's the factor in there with whether it generates a million dollars or not. All of that must be approved by the school board. And if that doesn't happen and council moves forward and approves a commercial, industrial tax abatement that's not been approved by the school board then that amount that would have gone to the schools but for the abatement council will be responsible for it. So you're going to have an opportunity every single time one of these new constructions and so forth come before council that's commercial or industrial and walk through that. And then you'll be able to do some negotiations with that in addition with having the consideration of how it going to effect the schools. And whether or not the school board will support it.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Another example I think it's a little, let's say someone owns a home and they're paying \$4,000 a year, and they put \$100,000, and let's say they added on. That might improve their home, what you say \$1,000, \$2,000? I don't know, what do you think it would...

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: \$1,000.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: A \$1,000, okay, the school still gets the same but in 5 years they're only saving let's say \$5,000. Is that enough incentive to someone to really get into the program?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, remodel is 10 years.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: But you wanted to go to 5 is what I'm saying.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, not for the remodel.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Okay.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: That stays the same.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: You're saying for the new homes?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: New housing, multi family. Yes, yes, in 10 years another thing you could look at too, you know this is

greatly expanded. And fortunately, some of the older homes I'll use Portage, some of the older North Canton neighborhoods weren't included.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Now are you specifically going after the 7 homes or just the empty lots.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: No, I'm not going, I don't....

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Because the empty lots I want people to build there. You've got to give them something, because it's been sitting there for years and years. Those lots.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: I understand.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: But we're not getting anything for those lots.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: But 5 years is very good.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Yeah.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Someone who builds that house might just sell it anyway they're not going to live in it. Just think about it.

<u>LAW DIRECTOR FOX</u>: Another consideration for you, is understand that whatever you put down in this ordinance for your CRA for residential. In your categories, the percentage that you agree to abate that's the same for everyone. And then you can have the different amounts. I just want to make sure you're aware of that and the residents are aware of it as well.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: Yeah, there's two things we did here. One, we discussed how the map was going to be drawn up. Now, we're discussing the details of the actual property tax abatements. Correct? Let's realize that. You know, that's all I'm saying. Some of the older homes weren't included, were not included until this one.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Well they were in those certain areas.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Certain areas were, but you know, like we saw. You know another thing we could look at...

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: That's why we desperately need this.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Exactly, we've all said that.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: And that's another reason why a lot of people hadn't historically taken advantage of it was the map was a lot smaller.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: It was just a smaller area. But maybe we could look at any house built before 1945, no matter where it is in the city, is eligible. Those are things you've got to look at, and I know, I know, it's kind of towards the end of our discussions. But it doesn't mean we still can't look at it and include it. We still need three readings on this. This is important to me, it's important to everybody here. I don't mean just me, it's just important to the future of North Canton, especially our schools. I mean that's the way I look at it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Let's not kid ourselves, if we do nothing and we don't do a CRA, and then we collect all the taxes on the Grand and hope that someone builds and improves their property. One of the comments that I've heard well, "you know that means it's going to mean more levies or a sooner levy. That has no effect on anything at all. The levies going to come when the levies going to come". They have their own budget that they have to handle and their own line items. You know they mentioned, someone mentioned about teachers being laid off. Every school district is managing their salary and benefit line item right now. Every one of them. Regardless of what the municipalities, the governments of this municipalities or townships are doing to spark development. They're doing it. They're trimming salary, everyone is doing it. So...

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING</u>: So I guess at this point, we need to agree what the years are going to be. So we're agreeing on the 10 year, \$2,500.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: For "a", its 10 years.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: For remodel. Now, we're at "b", greater than two units. We're currently at 12 years, 50%. If we have a majority to go on that, we can, if somebody else wants to speak, we know where Doug and Mark are.

<u>COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH</u>: I think the important piece there is that you know one of the real concerns about apartment buildings that are built in the city, is that they do depreciate over time. And so what we're saying here is we want a significant investment, we want, you're not going to get tax break unless you put at least \$50,000 of improvements. But we want to give people tax incentives to keep the apartments that are already here nice. We want things like Northpoint to continue to be nice. So I don't think there's a big giveaway here, and again if you look at the numbers that exist when you actually run them,

even with the term that's there right now. It's really not that significant.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: What Northpoint?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Well, the multi family.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: What we don't know is how many people live there pay income tax. I mean if you bring this down, maybe we'll be able to do that. Right, that was the whole point of going to this collection agency for us. We don't know, and let's also look at too no matter what's built in this city, we're going to have to provide services to it. And they're not taxpaying, there's not income tax revenue streams over there at Sanctuary Grand. The workers, but let's be realistic as we're going older as a community that presents other challenges for us that we have to meet with our EMS, fire, some of our other services.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: And we're pushing to get reimbursed with those.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Right, I understand. But those are the things we've got to look at long term, while we're looking at this.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: We soft bill that for all of the ambulance runs...

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: I confirmed with Karen, we get everything we bill.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, and what is the, what was the projected income tax revenue?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: \$45,000 a year right now.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: So that is a significant amount.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING:</u> And that's unique because there's income tax. So most multi families there's not going to be income tax. So that is a unique project.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Unless they live there.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING:</u> Well, yeah, unless they're paying income tax, I agree, but this is actually jobless. So but also big picture, we keep going back to the Sanctuary Grand, which I know is the elephant, but we're talking broad. We're talking multi family, greater than two units, what do we want to do? That's what we're talking about.

<u>COUNCILMAN FOLTZ</u>: Five years is better than no years. That's the way I look at it, you know. How much is too much? What's the fine line we've got to walk?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: I think 8 years is better than 12 years.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: I agree, but it's not as good as 5.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: I want, I actually want to run a couple of the numbers.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Let's run some numbers, lets...

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: I'm comfortable passing it in its current form for first reading.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: You're talking about getting income tax numbers?

<u>COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH:</u> No, I'm talking about the actual abatement. Because I think we've all talked philosophically about it, but I mean everybody, we've all talked about "well this is right, or this is wrong". The reality is whether it's somebody putting on a new garage or a large developer doing a multimillion dollar project. No one's going to do it unless it makes number sense.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: On both sides.

<u>COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH:</u> On both sides. Exactly, so I want to see what and I'm happy to do the work, I'll make sure that we've got it ready, and I'll work with Eric on it.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: I'm okay to go ahead with the first reading. I'll like to look over these years, that's what I'm saying or I'll you know I'll bail on the second or third reading. Cause I'd like to see, unless they make sense. The numbers make better sense. But I'm okay with moving it forward, because I do think the whole idea of it is the right thing to do for the future. I think we do need to tweak it a little bit.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: And I want to see which projects, I mean historically we're looking here forward.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: What have we lost though?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: Well we talked a lot about that.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: You know that we didn't move forward on.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: And we could change it every two years, let's make sure we understand that. But the ones though that we have put in it.

<u>COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH:</u> I will commit to having some numbers as examples for our next meeting, so that we have an even more informed discussion about it.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: And its two weeks away, our next meeting so we have plenty of time to put that...

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Three readings, and I think it's very important, based on what we've heard tonight. I mean there were folks that who admitted said that they didn't know much about it. But they still had an opinion on it. I think we need to make sure they know enough about it so they can have an informed opinion. And that goes for everyone, not just the folks that came here tonight. I think some of them are more informed than others. So I think that's a lesson moving forward here. You know we can hash out numbers, and do what we need to do to get everyone in a comfort position. But more importantly we need to have a message to the community on what this really is and what's all about. How it effects, not just the schools but how it effects the community. I mean, we're cognizance of where the schools are at, but we have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers. You know, we're not representatives of the school here. You know, we're...

<u>COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH</u>: I think, I mean I think we all take that it's very important to each of us. I mean it's really important, and I will also say I spoke to Doug Lane, who of course, is the president of the Chamber about the issue too. And he was committed if and when we pass some version of this, to help us participate in educational sessions. So that it's not just something that goes out there on books but that people, our residents are able to really take advantage of. And again, maybe it's something that would spruce the 4th, 5th, 6th elements of what we can do to continue to make improvements in the neighborhoods. So that's important too. That educational piece Jeff that you're talking about.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: And the City's newsletter that we want to start.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Okay, so I'm going to move that we give it its first reading at "b" is 12 years, 50% currently, and "c" is 15 years, 100% currently.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, we've already read it, I turned it over to you.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: We haven't voted on the first reading.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: To adopt the first reading.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Sorry, I motion we adopt.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: I'll second it.

Roll call vote of 5 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain to approve the first reading. Foltz voted no, Fonte voted to abstain.

ORDINANCE NO. 32 – 2016 WAS GIVEN FIRST READING.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. May I have a motion and a second to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 40 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to read by title only the first reading of Ordinance No. 40 - 2016.

12. Ordinance No. 40 – 2016

Street and Alley Committee

An ordinance approving, confirming, and accepting a perpetual public fire hydrant and waterline easement for the real property known as part of Parcel No. 9208743, and being part of Out Lot No. 200, by and between the City of North Canton, an Ohio Charter municipal corporation ("City"), Grantee, and Jan D Walther Irrevocable Trust, Grantor, and declaring the same to be an emergency.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Chairman Fonte, welcome to the meeting.

<u>COUNCILMAN FONTE</u>: Thank you. Boy that was a long one. Anyhow, this is the just what it says a perpetual fire hydrant easement, so we have access to it. Its' behind the sidewalk on Applegrove by where by hopefully the future site of Walther Café will be. So that's where it is. And we will be able to maintain and access it. So I move that we adopt that first reading.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt the first reading for Ordinance No. 40 - 2016.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Thank you, may ! have a motion and a second to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 40 – 2016?

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So moved.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to suspend the rules of Council for three readings for Ordinance No. 40-2016.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Thank you, may I have a motion and a second to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 40 – 2016?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt under suspension of the rules for Ordinance No. 40 - 2016.

ORDINANCE NO. 40 - 2016 WAS PASSED BY A ROLL CALL VOTE OF 7 YES.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. May I have a motion and a second to read by title only the first reading of Resolution No. 3-2016?

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to read by title only the first reading of Resolution No. 3 - 2016.

13. Resolution No. 3 - 2016

Ordinance, Rules and Claims Committee

A resolution designating the Dogwood tree as the City's tree.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Chairwoman Werren.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN WERREN</u>: So we've talked about this a few meetings, and the reason for this all started was the master plan. And one of the things that came out from that plan was to remove the title "The Dogwood City". It just didn't maybe have the impact that some people wanted, and just wanted to be North Canton. So one of the I guess things that we thought of, kind of Mark and his committee was to not take away the history or the heritage that the Dogwood tree has had throughout the time of North Canton. And so instead to make the tree, the Dogwood tree as our city tree. Just not have it as the tagline on all of our banners, and markers, and badges and different things. Anything else, Mark?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: No, well said.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, I move to adopt.

COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adopt the first reading for Resolution No. 3 - 2016.

RESOLUTION NO. 3 - 2016 WAS GIVEN FIRST READING.

15. Reports - Council:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, reports, Member Fonte.

COUNCILMAN FONTE: Okay, thanks for all the comments from all of our guests. But I would just like to say since I couldn't

participate in a lot of the conversation. Perception is reality in most people's minds. So it's important for us to make sure through the different modes of communication we take advantage of technology and get the word out of what really is happening. What the facts are. So that the perception is not the reality, the reality is the reality. Right? So I say we have the tools, once we figure out what it is that we need to present, someone present it, and post it out there for all the people that can't come. That's the only way they're going to know the facts and not the perception. So that's my report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Member Werren.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Just with the spring weather and moving into the summertime, grass is getting out of hand. And I've been kind of driving around, and kind of what you said, perception is reality. So you start to see the small tinges of people not taking care of their lawns, and maintenance. And it just really becomes obvious this time of year. So, I mean in one setting last week, I actually got out of the car, and measured our 8 inches to make sure. And I called a developer today and I think Jim, had dealt with them earlier, unbeknownst to me, so he got a few calls and Eric. But I mean we are getting on top of that and we fine and we're going to make it a pain in the butt, if you do not cut your grass and keep up with things. So, that's chain link fences that are in disrepair, you know, maybe leaving their trash cans if they're out continually. And the grass cuttings, I think it's just important, I mean those are small steps that we can do. But I'll keep my ruler handy. And then I also talked to IRG, and the trees that are behind, some of you may have noticed if you're at the "Y" a lot. There's about 6 dead trees, it happens a lot of times with Fir trees. And they are being replaced, I think there was a warranty on them, as most trees like them have. And they're all going to be replaced. So if you've seen the dead over there, that's what that is.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: You talk to someone from IRG?

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Yeah.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Did they say, yeah, did they say anything about adding more trees over by the retention area? They talked about putting more Pines over there.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Well, they're going to replace those, was that initially on? Was there supposed to more than that, that was already there?

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Yeah, I'll talk to you later about that. I got that email from Judy.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: Okay, that'll be great.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Member Kiesling.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN KIESLING</u>: Since we've been talking about the schools so much tonight, I just want to say the mayor and I had children graduate from Hoover on Saturday. It was an awesome day, it was fun, hard to believe, crazy, and it was really a great ceremony. I know we have a school board member, she's speaking, but she actually handed my son his diploma. So I'm excited, it was a great weekend.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Member Griffith.

<u>COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH</u>: I wanted to say a special thank you to Eric and his team. I got a call from some folks in our neighborhood, and they were concerned about some additional trash that had been left outside. They called me midmorning, and I called them right back, and by that time before lunch the folks from the nuisance team had already been out to photograph it and made comments. And had followed up on it too. So I just want to say a special thank you to Eric, that is going to do as much to continue to improve and keep our neighborhoods as good as they can be, just following up with things.

<u>COUNCILWOMAN WERREN</u>: Yeah, just to backtrack, Eric, has a done a terrific job. I mean, calling him back and he says "hey, Mark and I was out here this, Mark and I was doing this, I talked to Mark." He's continually keeping us updated and I mean those are those small things that we talk about. If we can get on some of these problems, and Eric's doing a great job.

COUNCILMAN GRIFFITH: So I wanted to say a special thank you.

COUNCILWOMAN WERREN: lagree.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, Member Cerreta?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Just to piggyback on what Stephanie said, sometimes we think the negative side. I just want to state also that we have some beautiful homes, beautiful yards. Some of the people take so much, the majority, let's just say, 90 some percent, so we have a wonderful community that does take care of a lot of stuff that they do. I mean, if you look at the flowers, I'm flower guy of course, the Dogwood trees are blooming. So kudos to the people who do live in this community that really care so much. To not only make their house look good, but their whole neighborhood look good. So we've got to keep that in mind with some things. Cause we sometimes want to go to the fixing side, we want to fix things. I don't want to take anything, I'm not sure what Doug's going to say, but I did go down to the pool today. I went by the pool, and went through and we had some discussion. Are you going to talk about that, I don't want to take that away. We had a meeting with the pool

folks last week, with the YMCA and the people who are getting the pool ready. You know, we spent three-quarters of a million dollars putting that in, and I went by it today and the water's in and it looks really cool. A lot of things aren't up yet, there are some things that are not up yet. And they may be in the first week. The grass right now, they're really watering that thing and getting that going. I mean, you can't grow grass in February. So they did plant the grass, it's coming along, it's made great strides in about 5 days. So hopefully we'll have some sun and everything. But we'll be cording off some areas where you still have dirt, but when you almost completely redo a pool, you're going to have that problem. And we cannot afford turf. So that's just some of the growing pains that we're going to have with folks out there. And we'll make sure that they see that, and you know, its we're going to apologize for that at first, of course, but that's part of the deal that we have to make this wonderful pool with. And that's what we're going to do. But it looks really nice. So the YMCA's been of course, you know trying to get things up to their standards and we want that as much as we can. But we are going to have some issues the first maybe week, so, but we're still going to have a wonderful pool. And it looks beautiful out there. Since our last discussion, last week, I've had a lot of good comments about a possible shelter over there off of East Maple. Like Dogwood. So I've had a lot of people say "that's a great idea". That area's not used, so let's, we'll discuss that a little bit more in our next session. But let's keep that in mind there. And then tomorrow, I'm going to be meeting with the superintendent. I'm going to give him a tour of the City tomorrow. So I know a couple of us, anybody who wants to join in on that, or, I know all the departments beware I'm going to be coming around and introducing Jeff Windorf to all of you. So anybody who wants to get in on that, let me know or anything you want me places you want me to take him to. We'll welcome him to the city and sure he understands where we are with it in the city. And that's it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Outstanding. Member Foltz.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Just to follow up, yeah, was Jim Davis with you today?

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Today he wasn't. He was doing some stuff.

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: Okay, we talked, I talked about it I think a couple weeks ago. The small slide is not going back in. That was one of the first things, the small one that was one of the things that we put over there. It doesn't meet the codes anymore, and it really needed replaced. So we're going to wait on that. That was one of the first things when I was elected we got done over there. I was so proud of that, the kids running around and going through that little one, that little slide. The diving boards will come back, but it's going to be a couple weeks. As you know, we're kind of grandfathered, we're using that option to hopefully reinstall. So they'll be brand new, but you know the same meters, but hopefully we can bring them back. But they're obviously not going to be there for the opening. I followed about the grass, and you're right, when you do any renovation there's going to be a couple hiccups to get through the first couple weeks. But they were proud of it now, but let's have a nice hot summer so we can really utilize this pool. We have a lot great housing, we know that, and we want to keep it that. Obviously, we don't want it to deteriorate, you know to the point that we have major problems. So that's good we discuss this and hopefully find a compromise in it. Eric is great, as we know, and Mark, but we just need a couple more of them sometimes to get through the paperwork. Because we wear many hats in this city, because we're so efficient with our workforce. And mayor, I'm asking again, you know, maybe you can look at the budget and see what we can do and get some additional full-time personnel over there. Because I'd like to have two of Eric running around, not just for the housing issues, but also for the community development issues too. So, hopefully we can start moving that direction we talked about with the budget. I think that's needs to come to the forefront here and look at that a little more closer and get that done.

<u>COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS</u>: Alright, just a couple of things, as far as the schedule tonight we have another special committee meeting directly after this. I'm going to adjourn out of this, go directly into that so if any of you folks want to stick around and talk, shouldn't be no more than 5 minutes. We're just going to be talking about bids, so don't leave after we adjourn out of this first meeting, if you want to talk with us. And I want to thank Eric too. Eric, thank you, I mean he got back to me pretty quick all three times I've called him this past week for homes that had the grass growing. And it was done the next day, and he was on top of it. So, I greatly appreciate that. So, that's it. Law director?

14. Reports:

LAW DIRECTOR FOX: No report.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Director of Finance.

FINANCE DIRECTOR ALGER: Just a few things, we had our second extraction of data for the income tax going to RITA. So that's going on schedule, everything is smooth. The June utility bills will be going out this week on Thursday, you will see a minimal increase which is tied to CPI, and that's per Ordinance No. 19 – 2013. And we've had the auditors in and the audits going well. That's it.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you. Director of Administration.

<u>DIRECTOR GRIMES</u>: Your residents should have gotten electric aggregation letters probably starting the end of last week. We have a three year lock in price in of \$5.38 per kilowatt hour. We do have some things on the webpage under the resident section there. It's a starting point, that's our aggregation. If you have a resident that can beat that price, fine, and if they want to join ours fine. You can opt-out of it, there's no charge on that. So, Memorial Day parade is going to kick off at 9:00 and then of course, the ceremony follows that at Bitzer Park. Saturday, June 4th registration is at 8:00, starts at 9:00 and that's the

mayor's fishing rodeo. So we always have a really good turnout there. So, thank you, sir.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, sir. Mr. Mayor?

MAYOR HELD: Yes, and the fishing rodeo, that was started by Mayor Dave Johnson, I think 44 years ago. So it's been going on for a long time. And a lot of people bring their kids, their grandkids, and they were attending back when they were little kids. So it's really a very, very positive event. Also, we do have one of our school board members Julie Cross, who's out in the audience. Thank, you did a very, as Marcia Kiesling had mentioned, I agree with her. And you may not have heard when she was speaking at the time, but it was a great graduation ceremony. Very nice, you gave out the diplomas along with the other school board members. But it was a really, really nice event. Very emotional event too, when your kids are graduating. So, very proud of our school system and the work that you folks do. Also the, we got our city survey back. We had really very positive results and so we want to present that. All of the councilmembers really I'm sure you've had a look at the results. What we're trying to do is tally everything. If you haven't, you will be getting it, when the survey was sent out, most we asked the residents to respond, and we would say please rank our police department; excellent, good, fair, poor, or don't know. And went through all the city services and then we allowed for comments. The good news is that we had 14% of the residents respond to the survey. And so if you look at surveys that are sent out, 14% is really, really high. We had a nice cross section of all the residents in the community. You know, from their 20's, 30's, 40's, 50's on up that responded. And the good news is that like our police department, 93% gave our police department either good or excellent rating. Fire, EMS, 92% good to excellent rating. The waste and recycling program, 94% good to excellent rating. But I would say that the waste hauling had more goods than excellent compared to our police and fire. But we are trying to find a way to easily categorize that. The one area that was very high, if you look at all, like every three years we send out a survey. So we did one in 2009, did one in 2012 and this one was supposed to be the end of 2015, but it was actually creeped over into 2016. You'll see that there was very little change, the percentages went up slightly for most all of the categories, but maybe 1 or 2%. But the one area that had the most significant difference was "I don't know" or "unsure" for a particular service. And when you look at that result tied in with the number of people that said that they would like to see a city newsletter, 83% responded that they would like to have a city newsletter. Jackson Township does it, Plain Township, the City of Canton does it. So Mike Grimes and also Jane Housas is working on putting together a city newsletter. We're not doing advertisements, any of that. A large percentage of that can be paid for through grant money that we get from different sources. And we want to send that out, and we're looking at doing it twice a year. We were thinking quarterly, problem is quarterly you know we think most of the information that we're sending out is not going, it's not like news, its information for the residents. So if we send it out twice a year, we're thinking about sending out, we'll reduce the postage, but we can have more pages. So it's kind of like taking four quarterly newsletters and just putting them into two. So the same volume, but then we'll reduce the postage. And really this should be a very little if any cost to the city because we'll utilize grant dollars that we have for that. So we have you know, a framework that we're looking at and its really just covering the various departments, the city services. And this is all information, all information based for the residents. So that's good news, and we hope to have it out like at the beginning of summer, and then another one right before Christmas. And we would do that every year. Okay, so that's good news on our end. And Jim, you're next. Speaking of good, our city engineer, great city engineer.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Mr. Engineer?

ENGINEER BENEKOS: Is that it? (That's it) Not a whole lot to report, projects are starting, we'll be tearing up the streets. And repairing them. So as usual if you have any questions on any projects, feel free to call me. Try and let you know we started up on Sunnyfield this morning.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: As it pertains to Woodside, when are they are going to come through and do the ceiling between the apron and the asphalt?

<u>ENGINEER BENEKOS</u>: I'll find out and I also noticed all the manholes need to be adjusted. There's some that are sitting up and I brought that to the contractor's attention, they need to protect them or call those out so people don't run into those. That's the contractor's responsibility if they do hit that, hit those. I counted about 5 or 6. So that's it, thank you.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Thank you, sir. Madame Clerk?

COUNCIL CLERK BAILEY: I actually do not have a report this evening.

15. Final Call for New Business:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright, final call for new business for council?

16. Adjourn:

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS: Alright seeing none I'll entertain a motion to adjourn?

COUNCILMAN FOLTZ: So moved.

COUNCILMAN CERRETA: Second.

Roll call vote of 7 yes to adjourn.

 $\underline{\textbf{COUNCIL PRESIDENT PETERS}}; \ \ \textbf{We are adjourned}.$

[Let the record reflect Charles Osborne set up a tripod and appeared to videotape the council megating.]

MARY BETH BAILEY, CLERK OF COUNCIL

DAMEL JEFF PETERS, PRESIDENT